



UNA Magazine

SPRING 2011 • VOL 19 • NUMBER 1

For the Alumni and Friends of the University of North Alabama



Christy Jordan, '02



Magazine

SPRING 2011 • VOLUME 19 • No. 1

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

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for alumni and friends of the University of North Alabama

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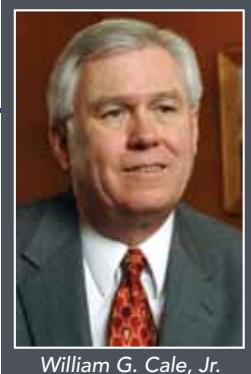
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William G. Cale, Jr.

president's message

William G. Cale, Jr.

I have learned this winter that there is yet another part of my job that falls into the "all other duties as assigned" category, namely weather prognosticator.

When nearly a foot of snow turned our campus into a majestic wonderland it was easy enough to close up, but deciding when to reopen was not nearly so obvious. Our guys did a great job clearing the campus, especially when their main weapons were the sun, leaf blowers, garden shovels and sand. And then there was our latest storm event, which started with another foot predicted and as we got late into the evening before the big event, the prediction was down to one to three inches. With everyone around us closing or delaying, I opted for a delayed opening the next morning and we put that word out to the media. At 5:30 the next morning when I looked out my window there was not one snowflake anywhere! This weather stuff is way beyond my pay grade and I'm glad this week to be back working on our three new building projects, leading our progress toward reaffirmation of accreditation, responding to the Governor's call for budget planning, and preparing a presentation to our local State delegation. Easy by comparison!

After graduating nearly 700 students in December, our Spring 2011 enrollment of 6758 is up slightly in comparison to last year. That is good news for us since the December graduation was one of our largest for a fall semester. American-Iranian scholar and director of the Middle East Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Dr. Haleh Esfandiari, gave a moving presentation to the graduates and was given a standing ovation by the 4000 people attending. In all my years and all my commencements, that was the first time I've witnessed such recognition for a speaker. It was much deserved.

Change and the possibility of change continue to focus our attention. A contract has been signed for construction of the Black Box Theater, and ground should be broken about the time you read this message. The student center is undergoing major changes with the addition of a large recreation and game room, new food options, and the Center for Financial Literacy. World of Wings eatery just opened in the student recreation center on north campus. Plans for a new Academic and Student Commons Building are very close to completion and with that project will come (on the entrance level) a Starbucks, a Chick-fil-A, a dramatically expanded book store, and the permanent home of the Center for Financial Literacy. On the second floor we will consolidate all of our academic support activities into a Student Success Center, and the Department of Criminal Justice will be on level three. Our new science and technology building is in the design stage and we hope to complete office and laboratory layouts by the end of February. The expectation is that Physical Plant operations will relocate to their new building (28,000 square feet, completion in March, 2011) on East Campus and their present location on Pine Street will become the site for construction of the science and technology building.

When people ask me how things are going at UNA, my answer is always that we continue to make outstanding forward progress. The concern all of us have in Alabama's higher education community is the uncertainty of stable state financial support and the risks to educational opportunity that declining support poses for all students. UNA's alumni and friends continue to step forward to help us with new support for scholarships and other needs. As we move ahead into some very exciting and transformational times, I hope everyone will consider a gift to help a student be successful.

And do come see us on campus – the WOW wings are great!

Sincerely yours,
William G. Cale, Jr., President



Mauldin Scholarship finances dream for Lauderdale County freshman

By Lucy Berry
Student Writer for University Communications

When she was informed she was one of 500 students that would be considered for a \$10,000 Edward Fennel Mauldin Scholarship, the largest single endowed scholarship award in UNA's history, she hoped, but didn't dare dream, that she might win the award.

After the competition dwindled down to 12 students, Peden was stunned when she was officially presented with the scholarship on Nov. 2 and given a 2009 Hyundai Accent by Mauldin's widow during the ceremony.

"My family couldn't stop crying when they found out about the award," she said. "It is a blessing. It's such a relief not to have to think about how many hours you are going to have to work to get the money saved up for next semester."

Peden, who graduated from Rogers High School in 2010 as one of the top 10 students of her class, was selected for the award based on her high academic record and because she is a first-generation college student from an area county.

Edward Mauldin was a farmer, banker and community leader from Town Creek who first organized the Bank of Florence in 1975 and merged it with First Colbert National Bank, which later became Bank Independent, where he served as chairman until his death last March.

"I'm the type of person that loves being able to help people and do for others," Peden said. "I know nursing is going to be tough, hard and expensive, so this scholarship is going to help me get the education I want."



2011 spring

For UNA freshman Tori Peden, the concept of paying for college has been a little daunting, as she has worked additional hours at her part-time job in hopes of saving more money for the next semester.



Brandi Lewis

Crowned Miss UNA 2011

Brandi Lewis, of Homewood, was crowned Miss UNA 2011 Jan. 22. Lewis, a senior political science major, was one of 12 contestants for the title. As Miss UNA, she plans to promote the platform "A Chance to Dream."

Norma Mills, of Cullman, was first runner up. Ann-Marie Ross, of Florence, was second runner up, and Anne-Marie Hall, of Russellville, was third runner up. The Miss UNA Scholarship Pageant is an official preliminary for the Miss Alabama and Miss America pageants. The pageant has been a UNA tradition for 35 years. It provides an opportunity for the university's young women to compete for scholarship funding and prizes.

Each contestant is encouraged and mentored to develop skills that will enrich her personal and professional life beyond her university experience. Miss UNA spends her year in service to the university and Shoals area community. She promotes the platform of her choice, makes official appearances as a university representative and represents the university at the Miss Alabama Pageant.

CIS Department Offers Program Specializing in SAP Software

The Department of Computer Information Systems has recently entered into the SAP America Corporation worldwide software program, the dominant product within the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software provider market, which will give CIS students at UNA increased job opportunities for the future. Several CIS courses are introducing SAP content in the spring semester 2011. Awaiting approval from the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, a new graduate concentration in the MBA program that specializes in the SAP software is expected to take effect next summer. Though some state universities are in the process of establishing a SAP program, UNA is the first Alabama institution of higher education to offer the software training to students, according to CIS department chair Dr. Paulette Alexander.

"This is going to give students a much better feel for how business organizations and information systems work together and how

our students can contribute to working within information systems in a global marketplace," Alexander said.

The SAP programs and concentrations will be available to students online and in a traditional classroom setting. Alexander hopes to bring specialized SAP courses to the certificate and undergraduate levels by next year.



As market leader in enterprise application software, SAP (NYSE: SAP) helps companies of all sizes and industries run better. Founded in 1972, SAP (which stands for "Systems, Applications, and Products in Data Processing") has a rich history of innovation and growth as a true industry leader.

ZOOMING IN

Electron Microscope to Fuel New Research at UNA

With the funding of a \$150,000 grant, the Department of Physics and Earth Science last fall purchased a state-of-the-art scanning electron microscope that will assist in future research endeavors.

Dr. Mark Puckett, associate professor of geology, said the scanning electron microscope (SEM) can go up to 1 million times the magnification of objects, while a regular light microscope can only go to 3,000 times the magnification.

"The difference between a regular high-powered microscope and this scanning electron microscope compares to the difference between a pair of binoculars and the Space Hubble telescope," Puckett said.

Unlike a regular microscope, the SEM uses an electronic beam instead of light, which allows users to operate a narrow beam to manually track small objects.

The SEM's high magnification and focused depth of field offers users the opportunity to do elemental analysis of objects, which was not an option before with the department's regular light microscopes.

"This is a great thing for UNA because it's a fundamental tool and can be used by so many different departments and businesses in the community," Puckett said. "This instrument opens up an entire world of things we can't even see with the most powerful light microscopes. Many research topics in areas such as biology, geology and engineering wouldn't be possible without it."

Puckett hopes local businesses will take advantage of the new tool for help with quality control in engineering, forensics, parts manufacturing, antiques and more.

He said that, in previous years, area scientists and researchers have had to travel to Tuscaloosa to use a similar microscope of this power.

"This tool presents great potential research that is not offered anywhere else in



this area," he said.

Puckett, who plans to publish a work on microfossils within the year and use the microscope for his research, helped write a proposal for the microscope two years ago. A year later, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources awarded UNA with a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant to fund the microscope.



Dr. Quinn Pearson Named Journal Editor

Dr. Quinn Pearson, a licensed professional counselor and professor of counselor education, will begin a three-year position as editor of the *Journal of Mental Health Counseling* in July. The journal is a quarterly publication focusing on clinical studies and counseling practices for members of the American Mental Health Counselors Association. Pearson was named editor after serving several years on the journal's editorial board.

"Dr. Pearson is an excellent choice to serve as editor for this important national journal," said Dr. Paul Baird, chair of the UNA Department of Counselor Education. "Furthermore, her selection is a tribute to the high quality of Dr. Pearson's scholarship and to her expertise as a counselor educator. This is an uncommon opportunity for a university that is not a doctoral research institution."

Pearson was selected for the position after competing with a small pool of qualified applicants across the country who had either served as an associate editor for the journal or had equivalent editorial experience. "I am incredibly honored to have the opportunity to impact the professional literature in the mental health counseling field and to be involved at a higher level," Pearson said.

Lisa Darnell Named SPRF Educator of the Year

Lisa Darnell, assistant professor of speech communication, received the Educator of the Year award from the Southern Public Relations Federation (SPRF) in September. She had been presented with the Public Relations Council of Alabama's (PRCA) Educator of the Year award the previous April.

"I was shocked, honored and excited," Darnell said. "The award affirms to our students that they have chosen the right college to attend and that we have winning faculty and students in this department."

Darnell has been heavily involved since 1993 in organizing and advising UNA-PRCA, the student-run chapter that works in the area of public relations. She has attended the PRCA and SPRF conferences for 18 years and was named SPRF senior practitioner in 2007.

Dr. Greg Pitts, chair of the UNA Department of Communications, said Darnell's award proves that UNA can compete with larger universities in the area.

"Darnell's award is one more great affirmation of the quality of this department, the commitment of the faculty to the students and the type of professional education our students receive in public relations and other communication programs at UNA," Pitts said.





Fall Commencement Speaker

The guest speaker for UNA's Fall 2010 commencement ceremony was Dr. Haleh Esfandiari, the director of the Middle East Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Esfandiari's presentation, titled, "My Prison, My Home, Your Journey," concerned her period of detainment in her native country of Iran, during which she spent more than three months in solitary confinement after being accused of being a spy and a traitor.

"My story is one of arrest, imprisonment, solitary confinement and weeks of interrogation," she said. "But it is also a story of perseverance, survival and the refusal to give in to despair."

Esfandiari said that there has not been even one day during the past three years when she has not thought about her imprisonment. She hopes that graduates draw strength from their own struggles the same way she has from hers.

"If we remain true to our beliefs, we persevere and refuse to yield to the forces of fear and darkness, we can prevail," she said. "I hope you will remember that as you go out into the world."

UNA-China Program Offers Business and Cultural Studies

A group of UNA students will experience Chinese culture and international business practices first-hand during an intensive four-week program in Tianjin, China, this summer. The group will travel June 3-July 3 as part of the new UNA-China Study Abroad Program.

"This is the first time UNA students have the opportunity to learn about China, Chinese people, Chinese history and culture by going to China," said Dr. Chunsheng Zhang, UNA vice provost for international affairs. "I am confident that the China study abroad program will be a life-changing experience for our students. I hope the experience will benefit them academically, professionally and personally."

The UNA-China Study Abroad Program offers two tracks for undergraduate and graduate students: business, and history and culture. The business track focuses on Chinese culture, economic reform, China's economic role in the world market, and business practices, while the history and culture track focuses on Chinese culture and regional geography, subcultures,



history, arts, customs, cuisines and lifestyles.

The program will include classroom instruction as well as cultural field trips to destinations such as Confucius's hometown of Qufu, the Chinese ancient capital of Xi'an and the Chinese capital city of Beijing.

The UNA-China Study Abroad Program is offered in part through a \$20,000 grant from the U.S.-China Education Trust, which is providing \$1,500 scholarships to eligible students selected for the program. The study-abroad program is affiliated with the 100,000 Strong Initiative.



UNA graduate finds
success without
looking for it

Sweet!

By Jenn Lyles,
UNA Student Writer

Christy Jordan

has the best of both worlds. A stay-at-home mom with two children in North Alabama, her life also includes sporadic first-class flights to places like New York City, where she found herself on the set of NBC's Today Show this past December, on a day she jokes was a typically "normal day" for her. Although it's true that her new-found fame has brought many perks to her seemingly normal life, her success started from a simple blog post.

Jordan posted a recipe for banana pudding for her friend, uploading pictures with step-by-step instructions. The next day, her blog received a couple hundred hits, and the site featured her recipe on their home page. Attempting to score the front page two days in a row, Jordan blogged another recipe, and to her surprise it gained even more attention. And the rest is history. Today Christy Jordan's SouthernPlate.com receives more than 15 million hits a month.



"It's an amazing honor to have folks read my ramblings and try my recipes," she said. "Every time someone leaves a comment about one of my stories or tells me about their family loving one of my recipes, I just can't help but feel incredibly honored to be a small part of their wonderful families."

With enough loyal readers and fans she calls her "Southern Plate family," the petite blonde with a distinct drawl was able to release her first cookbook this past October. In "Southern Plate," Christy Jordan shares her life with loyal readers through recipes, photos, family portraits, and funny stories. Jordan gives the public an inside look into her kitchen, and shares great recipes to fans nationwide. She teaches them that cooking isn't just ingredients in a bowl; it's making a dish with love that's so important.

"My main emphasis on Southern Plate [.com] is to preserve the recipes of our Southern heritage," she said. "There are so many wonderful ones from days gone by that seem even more delicious with the passing of time."





You don't have to have a lot of money, or buy fancy ingredients to imitate Jordan in the kitchen. In fact, she says everybody already has the most essential appliance for the kitchen.

"It's your hands! The majority of kitchen tools and appliances they sell nowadays are luxuries, not necessities," she said. "I find that in the time it takes you to get an appliance out, set it up, use it, and wash it and put it away again, you could have just used your hands and been done in half the time."

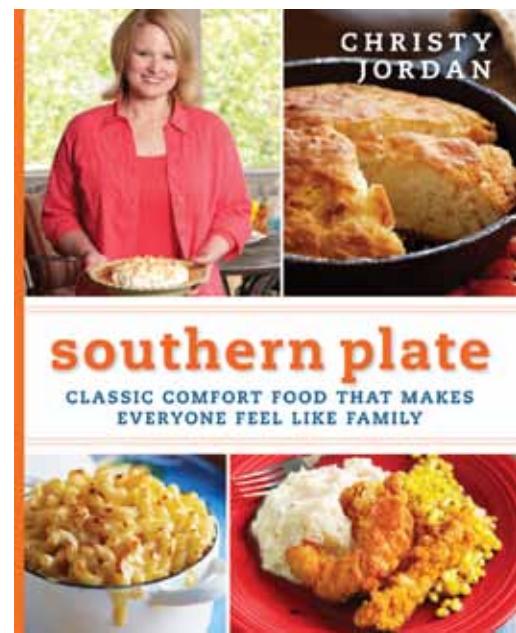
The Tennessee Valley native resident grew up in Alabama, learning her culinary skills from her grandmother and mother. Working next to them in the kitchen, she developed a love for cooking at a very young age.

"The first recipe I ever developed on my own was when my husband and I had been married a few weeks," she remembered. "It was my one-skillet chili bake and it is still a favorite of his and my kids today."

She took that love for cooking family recipes to the University of North Alabama, where she earned her bachelor's in home economics in 2002. And just before the official release of her cookbook, Jordan paid a visit back to UNA this past fall for a book signing where she was able to show off those culinary skills at her very first public cooking demonstration.

Set up like a TV set with a kitchen on stage, Jordan interacted with attendees by cooking in front of them. She told stories, read a personal excerpt from her book and even shared her cooking with guests. After each dish was presented, UNA's culinary department handed out ready-made samples of all of Jordan's food, so all who were there left full of great Southern cooking.

"I'm so glad I went to a university where the professors actually know their students. I had personal guidance from all of my professors the entire time I was working on my degree," she recalled



of her time spent at UNA. "Mrs. Jane Wilson, in particular, kept me motivated and going with pep talks on more than one occasion."

Jane Wilson, a former instructor of Jordan's and chair of human environmental sciences at UNA, said she was honored to have taught Jordan.

"Christy is very, very smart. She is just so creative and has always been such a hardworking person," Wilson said. "I love to see my students do well. She's ours. She's made history."

With the release of "Southern Plate," and selling more than 50,000 copies in the first month alone, her popularity has been

growing steadily. The small-town mom managed to squeeze in a book tour, and was even featured in a seven-page spread for the magazine "Southern Living." She was also a guest on The 700 Club. Jordan said she never could've imagined her life turning out this way.

"It's all a balancing act and sometimes it is more balanced than others," she said. "I think all mothers have the same problem though, whether they work outside the home or not. Some days are crazier than others, of course, but the main thing to keep in mind is that at the end of the day, what I'm doing should serve to enhance the lives of my family rather than take away from it."

Jordan finds the majority of her days spent on her site, admitting she works nearly 10 hours a day with things associated with her Southern Plate empire. Her husband Ricky is a great help to her site, and her friend Jyl assists with the business side of things. But as far as PR goes, she gives credit to her 11-year-old son, Brady.

"He has been known to stop folks in the grocery store and say, 'Hey, do you know about SouthernPlate.com? It is a really cool website and my Mom writes it!'" she laughed.

"It's kind of cool to see where we are now. A couple years ago we were a normal family, then it all exploded," Brady Jordan said, after bragging about his mom's delicious chocolate cookies with chocolate chips. "She's the best mom ever, and the greatest cook in the world."

She jokes that her 5-year-old daughter is proud of her, but loses interest quickly when she tries to explain her career to her.

"I realized that I don't need to try to make it a big deal to the kids because to them, it isn't nearly as important as whether or not I'm going to be able to help with their school parties or be waiting on them when they get off the bus," Jordan said.

And that's why people have fallen in love with Christy Jordan. That down-to-earth attitude makes her unique from



others who have gained similar success. Her humor, charm and character shine through on her site. She doesn't claim to be anybody special. In fact, she insists people not call her a "chef," but rather a "home cook."

With word growing about her site and cookbook, Jordan was contacted by the head of marketing at her publisher, who informed her she had been booked on the Today Show Dec. 29, where she looked right at home as she made fruit-filled fried pies.

"No one ever asked if I was comfortable speaking in front of a group of people or doing live TV," she said. "People just call and invite me and I have kept myself open to all of the opportunities that have come my way, as long as they don't have any adverse affects on my family."

Jordan said her fans can look forward to seeing her on QVC at some point in the near future. She also said she's started working on her next book, with no official release date yet. As far as other big plans, a possible show could be in her future.

"I'm working with a TV production company out of L.A. and they've already filmed a pilot episode for a potential television show. They flew to Alabama to film it, too, and I really appreciated that," she said. "We'll see what comes of it over the next few months but they are really



excited and I can't help but be a little bit excited, too."

But rather than hopping at every opportunity thrown Jordan's way, she said she's learning to say "no" more often, because each minute doing a promotional gig is another minute away from her family.

"I consider myself to be a stay-at-home mom, and with young kids that is obviously my most important job," she tells her readers on SouthernPlate.com.

Regardless of what lies next for this UNA graduate, she has no plans to ditch her home state just because of her career. A career, Jordan stressed, she was never searching for, but grateful it fell into her lap.

"Television cameras and contracts are not a motivation to move," she said. "Neither is money when we have all of these wonderful things no amount of money can buy. This area is my home, and you know how folks say you should bloom where you're planted? Well I'm pretty deeply rooted right where I am and this has all bloomed on Alabama soil. I want to watch my kids bloom here, too."

And for now, just about anyone can watch Jordan's kids grow up, and see pictures of her family enjoying life together. That's what her site is about. Sure, it holds dozens of great recipes for every occasion, but she shares her life with fans so they get to know who she really is. She doesn't just write ingredients down for users to copy. Often, you'll see a story behind how a recipe was created, or a family memory that's triggered by the dish. Jordan also uses her Southern Plate Facebook page as a personal outlet. She posts several times daily, and often uploads pictures of her kids, as she tells stories about them through status updates.

Jordan's success is an inspiration to people everywhere. Sometimes it comes when you least expect it to, or when you don't expect it at all. Her time at UNA has undoubtedly added to the person she's become today.

"I hope my children go to UNA," she said. "I'd hate to think of them attending a university where none of the faculty knows who they are, where they came from, or what dreams they are working towards.

"Your education adds to who you are, the overall wisdom you have and are able to obtain in life," she added. "Your mind is the only investment guaranteed to yield a lifetime of returns."

Although it's hard to tell what the future holds for Christy Jordan, if the past few years are any indication, the sky is definitely the limit for this Southern mom. Currently, more than 20,000 subscribe to her e-mailed newsletter, and her cookbook continues to be a success nationwide. She has put North Alabama on the map, and her former professors and loyal readers are proud of all she's accomplished.

"I never dreamed of doing all of this but I did dream of getting to be a mother," she said. "I'm enjoying living both dreams but the first one is my priority."



Where will you be in 10 Years?

By Lucy Berry

Student Writer for University Communications

When UNA alumni **Sam ('99)** and **Jenny ('01) Evers** discovered their first-born Samuel showed the physical characteristics of Down syndrome at birth, they didn't know much about the chromosomal disorder or how it would affect their lives or Samuel's. Seeking comfort at the hospital after the news, Sam found solace in the wise words of a caring nurse.

"She said having a child with Downs is like getting ready to go on vacation to Hawaii. You get on the plane, but then the pilot says you're going to Alaska instead. It is an equally nice place, but you're not expecting it," Sam said.

During the next year, Sam and Jenny learned a new definition of normal and embraced the concept of change as Jenny's mother passed away two months after Samuel's birth in April 2006. With a new set of challenges on their

hands, the Evers adjusted to taking care of the now 4-year-old boy they describe as a "very happy, free spirit."

The Evers, both 33, met as students at a 1997 fraternity party. Sam, a marketing major, was a member of Sigma Chi and Jenny, a former Lionette, was rushing Zeta Tau Alpha when her friend introduced the two at the campus get-together. They were married in September 2001 after Jenny completed her undergraduate degree in commercial music.

"Life is really much more typical than you think it will be when you first find out about the disorder," Jenny said. "We feel lucky because Samuel has brought nothing but joy to our lives. God doesn't make mistakes. He chose us to do this and gave us Samuel for a certain reason."

The Evers didn't know anyone with Down syndrome or anyone who had been affected



by the disorder in the Madison/Huntsville area where Sam works as an insurance adjuster. In search of guidance during that vulnerable time, Sam and Jenny got involved with numerous support groups and events until a social worker led them to Bringing Up Down Syndrome (B.U.D.S.), a non-profit organization devoted to supporting families raising a child with the disorder.

Because Down syndrome disorder occurs in one out of every 773 births and acts as the number one genetic variation among newborns, the Evers knew they had discovered their calling upon getting involved with B.U.D.S. Because Samuel is one of more than 400,000 people living with Down syndrome in the United States, the young couple felt inspired to make a difference in the lives of others who are dealing with the same challenges.

"Our mission is to promote those with Down syndrome and to celebrate all of their accomplishments," Sam said. "You don't really know the disorder until you're living and

working with it, but Samuel has opened up a world we would have otherwise never known."

As the couple remained busy with their philanthropic efforts through B.U.D.S. and continued to adjust to Samuel's special needs, Jenny became pregnant with their second child, Matthew, and gave birth to him in 2008. Other than having a peanut and milk allergy which affects his food intake, Matthew is a typical 2-year-old with a love of dinosaurs, tigers and his big brother Samuel.

"Having Matthew was a big adjustment for Samuel at first, but they've come to love each other," Jenny said. "The new baby has produced a whole other set of challenges as we always feel like we're at two speeds: stop and run."

In a world with a wealth of information about the disorder, the Evers initially found it difficult to sort through the contrasting statistics, resources, and misinformed perceptions. As a result, the B.U.D.S. group started a new project called "Changing Lives," where they meet with medical providers,

nurses, doctors, pediatricians, gynecologists and other health professionals to inform them about the disorder.

Jenny wants to get hands-on in doctor's offices and hospitals to train them on how to handle a new family when breaking the news of a Down syndrome diagnosis, give them up-to-date information from the National Down Syndrome Society, and help medical providers gain a more enlightened perspective about the disorder. One of the group's main priorities is to inform the public that people affected by Down syndrome have the same opportunities as anyone else, Jenny said.

"As parents, we only want people to focus on our child's ability, not his disability," she said. "It's not the challenges or the struggles that bother me. It's just that I want my child to be accepted and loved. Our big deal is that we don't want people to put any limitations on him since Down syndrome kids have a disadvantage because they show the physical characteristics and people prejudge them."

In order to raise awareness about their group and the disorder in North Alabama, the Evers organized the eighth annual Buddy Walk at Joe Davis Stadium in Huntsville, where almost 700 area residents came out to show their support for B.U.D.S. The first walk the Evers went to when they joined B.U.D.S. attracted only 100 people. In 2010, the walk brought in more than \$25,000 in donations.

Sam and Jenny add an additional 25 hours of work each week to their already hectic schedule as they carry out their duties as presidents of B.U.D.S. The group, which brings in members from the Shoals, Guntersville, Fort Payne, Hartselle, Decatur and other areas in the North Alabama region, works together to put a face to B.U.D.S. by hand-delivering packets of information to new parents of Down syndrome children in order to offer their support.

"We deliver to families if we can because we sat there for a long time without information



and it was a miserable feeling not knowing who to call or what to do," Sam said. "We have families scattered everywhere, so if we can't make it to a new member's house, we try to call people we know in their area and network that way."

The Evers are blessed with two playful, energetic, and gifted children. Jenny describes Samuel as "half-typical, half-special," an affectionate term that also relates closely to her own family and lifestyle.

Sam and Jenny will continue to be proactive and passionate about Down syndrome disorder and work to improve lives for struggling families in North Alabama.

"For parents who have just gotten the diagnosis, the number one thing I want to tell you is congratulations and that it's all going to be okay," Sam said. "Things will be more typical than you think they will be. You can't worry about everything because there's so much down the road, so you just do the best you can because the potential is always there. Down syndrome children have a wide range of intellect and abilities just like everybody else."



UNA Alumni Making a Difference

Since July of 2009, **Scott Frost ('89 & '90)**, his wife Tammy, and children Anna Fay, Logan, and Amelia have been living and learning in La Paz, Bolivia.

All of the Frosts chose a different lifestyle than they are accustomed to, using a taxi as their mode of transportation and an apartment for a home. They have made a commitment of a minimum of four years to work with another culture. Frost is the headmaster of an American K-12 school with 175 students. The campus was converted from a rugged old brick factory in a country known for Incan treasures. Challenges abound: an act as simple as accessing the school is made difficult by a dirt road that easily turns to mud in a rainfall.

Scott's wife, Tammy is a science teacher at the school and all three Frost children attend.

La Paz is 12,000 feet above sea level and deemed as the "city at the top of the clouds." The climate in the Southern Hemisphere and the living conditions in Bolivia are vastly different from their previous home in the affluent outskirts of Birmingham.

Frost said, "Bolivia is a hidden gem. This school is doing great things academically but the greatest beauty and successes are in the teachers who were called to the mission field to teach and demonstrate love to the students. Our students are from tough family surroundings and broken homes and they can't wait to come to school. School is their safe haven."





THE HIGHLANDS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

(HIS) began in 2003 with a handful of families who desired a world-class English-speaking Christian education for their children. From the beginning HIS has sought to give the students of La Paz an excellent education, an education that is centered on core values and servant leadership. The school is a member of NICS (Network of International Christian Schools), an organization founded on the belief that a major thrust for world evangelism and discipleship for Christ can happen in the classroom with the influence of Christian educators overseas. Children have many teachers in their lives, whether they be at home, in the classroom, on the street or elsewhere; none, however, has a more powerful impact than educators in the classroom.



With 20 English-speaking international schools in 16 countries, NICS meets the educational needs of 4,500 pre-K through Grade 12 students from over 100 nations. Highlands is a member of ACSI and SACS and is in the process of obtaining accreditation from both organizations.

Frost received a bachelor's degree in Finance and Management from UNA and currently is working on a master's of

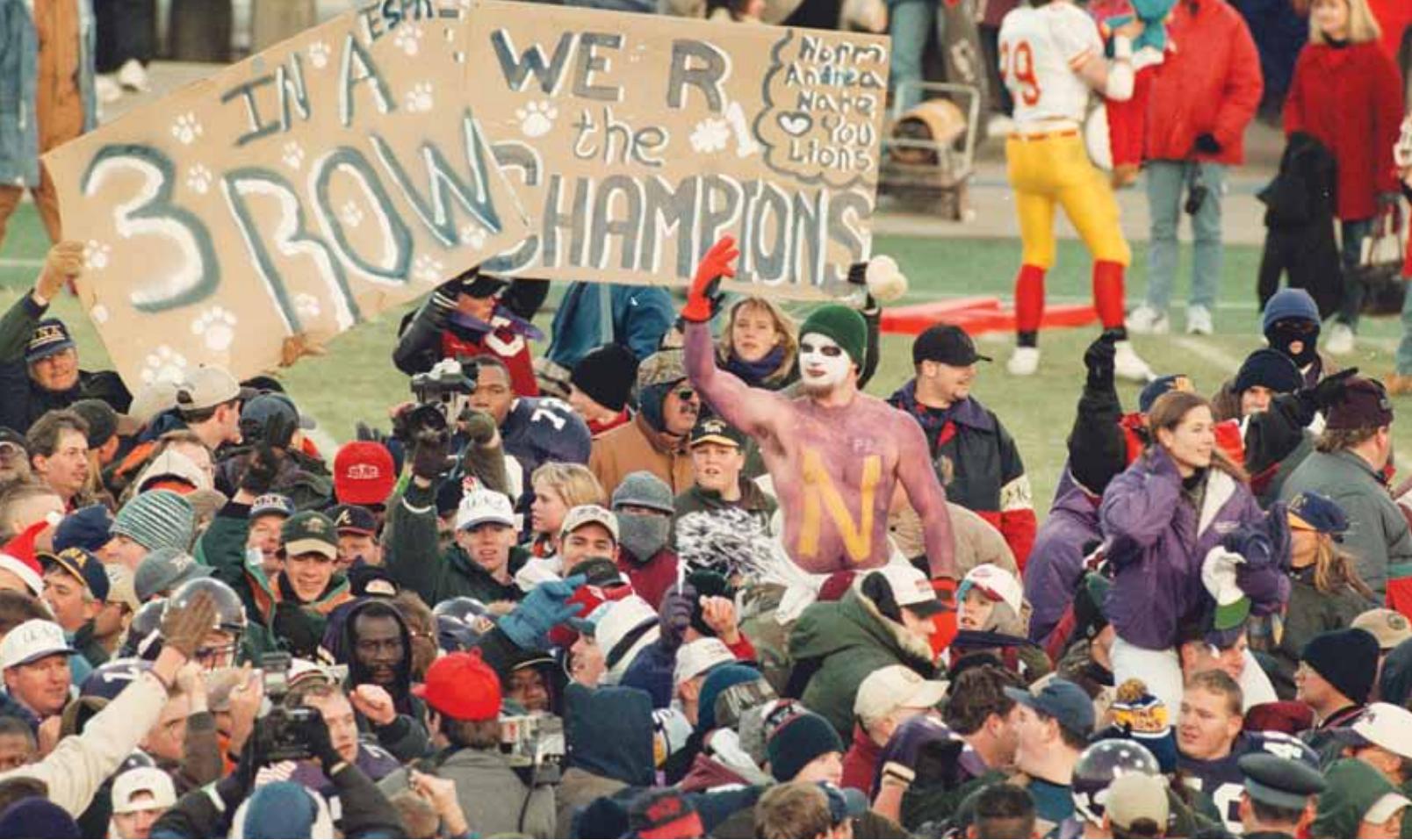
educational leadership at the University of South Carolina. While a student at UNA, Frost helped found the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity chapter and became president of that fraternity. After graduation he served as the assistant Dean of Student Affairs. His leadership skills prepared him for ten years as the president of a major firm in corporate America as well as the difficult task he faces in South America.

Frost is a native of Florence, graduating from Bradshaw High School where his father Eddie Frost was a coach. His father retired from education and went into politics, eventually becoming a five-term mayor for the City of Florence. He has been an influential leader of men all of his life.

"Scott and I have been friends for over 30 years. Having known him that long and seeing what he is doing with his life now is a true blessing. He is an example of someone truly being available to God. The decision Scott and his family made to change vocations is only done when there has been a calling on your life. I am honored to call Scott a friend and know that he is making an impact on others," said **Todd Vardaman ('90)**, UNA Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance.

Frost encourages others who wish to follow their hearts and change vocations in order to make a difference to go to <http://nics.org/> to read more about teaching opportunities around the world.





UNA REACHES 25-YEAR MILESTONE AS NCAA HOST INSTITUTION



When the University of North Alabama partnered with the newly created Shoals National Championship Committee in 1986 to try and bring the NCAA Division II Football Championship Game to the Shoals area, it was hoped such a move would enhance the image and broaden the visibility of the University and the Lions' football program.

This past December, as UNA and the Shoals hosted its 25th consecutive Division II Football Championship Game, it was obvious that the game's move to Florence had accomplished that and much more.

The game's move to the Shoals has not only given the game stability, as it had been played at five different sites over the previous 13 years, but it also resulted in the creation of two of Division II's premier award programs in the Harlon Hill Trophy and the Division II Football Hall of Fame. The game and the award programs have not only created opportunities for current and former student-athletes from across the country to be honored but have also seen numerous current and former Lions receive recognition as well.

The game's 25 years in the Shoals marks the second longest continuous period that any NCAA championship in any sport on any level has been hosted at one site, second only to the Division I Baseball World Series in Omaha, Neb.

It was UNA's appearance in the 1985 Division II Championship Game in McAllen, Texas, that prompted the community and University to initially bid on the game, in the hope that the Lions could play for a national title on their home field. It would be eight years before that would become a reality, but in 1993 UNA defeated Indiana University of Pennsylvania 41-34 to become the first Division II School to win the Division II football championship on its home field. With two other national titles following in 1994 and

1995, UNA became the first, and so far only, Division II school to win three straight national championships.

Once it was announced that the game was coming to the Shoals in 1986, the Harlon Hill Trophy was created to honor the Division II football player of the year. Named for UNA alumnus **Harlon Hill '55**, the award is presented at a banquet on the evening prior to the Division II Championship Game. Not only has UNA had two Hill Trophy winners in **Ronald McKinnon '09** (1995) and **Will Hall '04** (2003), but the Lions have had 15 Hill Trophy candidates over the last 25 years. The award has given Division II student-athletes from across the nation a chance to be recognized and the Hill Trophy is now one of the most recognized awards in collegiate athletics.

In 1999, a Division II Football Hall of Fame was created to honor the most outstanding student-athletes to have played in the division since its creation in 1972. The Hall of Fame is housed in the Sportsman's Club room at Braly Stadium. Two former UNA players and a former Lion coach are among the 28 current inductees. Former UNA quarterback **Cody Gross '96** was inducted in 2006 and McKinnon followed in 2007.

As host for the Division II Football Championship Game, UNA's commitment is extensive. The University hosts an annual luncheon on campus for the two participating teams and the UNA President's Office also hosts VIPs from the schools and the NCAA on game day at the Braly Stadium press box. UNA's football practice facilities are also utilized by the competing schools. The UNA sports medicine staff provides all necessary assistance during the championship week and game, while the school's sports information department handles all media credentials, press

conferences and press box game day operations that include hosting ESPN. The athletic director coordinates game day operations at Braly Stadium that include the UNA ticket office and much of the athletic staff. UNA's University Events, Food Service, Physical Plant, Public Safety and other campus departments are also involved in various aspects of the Championship week activities. In addition, UNA's Pride of Dixie Marching Band has performed at all 25 Division II Championship Games hosted at Braly.

"Not only is UNA the host institution but it provides tremendous support for the game, both behind the scenes and in key leadership positions," said SNCC President Mickey Haddock. "The athletic director, the sports information director, ticket manager and many others play major roles in the administration of the game."

"If UNA was just strictly a host in name only, this game would not have been here 25 years," Haddock added. "UNA is much more of a partner with the SNCC and that's why the game has been such a success."

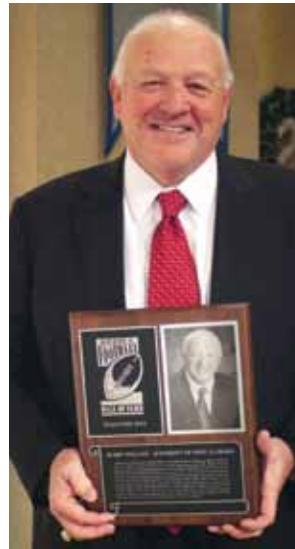
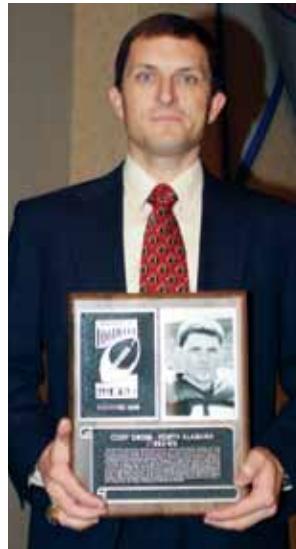
Even though it has been 15 years since UNA's last appearance in the Division II Championship Game, the commitment and enthusiasm shown by the host committee and the University have never wavered and have been key components in the game remaining in the Shoals. The administration of the game, the championship atmosphere and the hospitality of the local community are big reasons why the game will continue to be played in the Shoals, at least through 2013.

Participating teams are the real winners, according to former Division II Football Committee member Dick Yoder.

"No matter where you're from or what school you represent, you will feel at home when you get to the Shoals," Yoder said. "The atmosphere created there is incredible. Southern hospitality exists down there, and you feel special. It's an incredible experience that players and coaches remember forever."

In addition to hosting the Division II Football Championship Game for the past 25 years, UNA has also hosted NCAA regional championships in volleyball, football, men's basketball, women's basketball and golf.

In May, UNA will further extend its legacy of hosting NCAA championships when the school plays host to the 2011 Division II Men's Golf Championships at the Robert Trent Jones at the Shoals Fighting Joe Course.



Cody Gross ('96)

Ronald McKinnon ('09)

Bobby Wallace

Division II FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

The Division II Football Hall of Fame was created in 1991 to honor the all-time greats to have played in the division since it was created in 1973.

Through 2010, 28 former Division II players and coaches have been inducted, with three of those coming from UNA.

Former UNA quarterback **Cody Gross '96**, who had a 41-2 record as a starter with the Lions, was inducted in 2006, followed by former Lions' All-

American linebacker **Ronald McKinnon '09** in 2007. Former UNA head coach Bobby Wallace, who led the Lions to three straight national championships, was in the first class of coaches to be inducted in 2010.

UNA's three inductees is the second most for any school.

The hall was created by UNA Sports Information Director **Jeff Hodes '82**, who serves as the chairman.

HARLON HILL TROPHY

The Harlon Hill Trophy was created in 1986 as part of the move of the NCAA Division II Football Championship to the Shoals area of Northwest Alabama. The idea was to enhance the Division II Championship experience with other events surrounding the game that would recognize the division's student-athletes.

As the name sake for the award, UNA graduate **Harlon Hill '55** was a perfect example of an outstanding student-athlete at the non-Division I level who went on to make a name for himself as Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player in the National Football League.

The idea for the creation of the award came from Shoals National Championship Committee Chairman Grady Liles, and the initial proposal was produced by University of North Alabama Sports Information Director **Jeff Hodes '82**, who has served as the Chairman of the National Harlon Hill Award Committee for the last 25 years.

Since its creation, the Harlon Hill trophy has had a far-reaching impact on Division II football and is now among the most recognized awards in collegiate athletics.

In addition to having Hill's name on the trophy, UNA has also garnered national attention with two Hill Trophy winners in **Ronald McKinnon '09** (1995) and **Will Hall '04** (2003).



Will Hall ('04)

UNA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE INCLUDES TRIP TO COWBOYS STADIUM



The University of North Alabama has released a tentative 2011 football schedule that includes two games against first-time opponents, a game at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, a six-game home schedule at Braly Stadium and a five-game Gulf South Conference slate.

Coming off a 9-4 season that saw the Lions advance to the NCAA Division II playoffs for the sixth straight year, UNA head coach Terry Bowden said the 2011 schedule is something to be excited about.

UNA's game at the \$1.2 billion Cowboys Stadium will be part of the three-game Lone Star Football Festival in Arlington on Sept. 17. In the noon game Midwestern State will take on Texas A&M-Commerce. At 4 p.m. UNA will face perennial Division II power Abilene Christian.

In the third game of the day, Texas A&M-Kingsville plays West Texas A&M at 8 p.m.

Despite the six Arkansas schools leaving the Gulf South Conference, North Alabama will still have three games against the former GSC members, facing Harding at home and Southern Arkansas and Arkansas Tech on the road.

The GSC schedule has been reduced to a five-game slate that includes a game against provisional GSC member Lambuth, but includes the traditional GSC rivals.

North Alabama will play six non-conference games to open the season and the final five against GSC opponents.

2011 UNA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE (Tentative)

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
September 3	Sat	CENTRAL OKLAHOMA	HOME	6:00
September 10	Sat	GLENVILLE STATE (W.V.)	HOME	6:00
September 17	Sat	vs. Abilene Christian (@Cowboys Stadium)	Arlington, Texas	4:00
September 24	Sat	HARDING (Homecoming)	HOME	6:00
October 1	Sat	at Southern Arkansas	Magnolia, Ark.	
October 8	Sat	at Arkansas Tech	Russelville, Ark.	
October 15	Sat	* DELTA STATE	HOME	6:00
October 22	Sat	* LAMBUTH	HOME	6:00
October 29	Sat	* at West Alabama	Livingston, Ala.	
November 5	Sat	* WEST GEORGIA	HOME	6:00
November 12	Sat	* at Valdosta State	Valdosta, Ga.	

* Gulf South Conference Games

THORNTON SCORES BIG at 93.9

Greg Thornton ('80) knew the market was there. Having been in radio since working as a disc jockey his junior year in high school, Thornton always had a special appreciation of sports on the air.

He was doing play-by-play announcing of Sheffield High School sports by his freshman year

at the University of North Alabama.

Thornton graduated from UNA in 1980 with a double major in business management and radio/television broadcasting, and worked for WVNA.

Throughout the years, he continued live sports broadcasts and became the voice of his high school alma mater, Bradshaw High School.

During those years, he heard from many sports fans in the area, and noticed the popularity that WVNA's AM station had when it started airing the WJOX weekday broadcasts of a popular Birmingham sports-

talk show hosted by Herb Winches and Ben Cook.

Thornton decided to take the chance. In 2002, he purchased WYTK 93.9 FM in Florence and started the Shoals' first local all-sports radio station, The Score.

"It was kind of a shot to put sports talk on FM at the time, and now it's pretty common to do that," Thornton said.

The risk paid off. The station continues to thrive today, as evident by a recent ranking of sports-talk shows throughout the nation.

The ranking by Cision Navigator, which follows various trends in the media market, looks at the potential market share of every region in the country that has a sports-talk station.

It then looks at the Arbitron ratings for those markets, compared to how much of the market listens to the station.

The findings: The Score ranks 10th nationally in that ranking, according to the Cision Top 10.



Thornton admits he is surprised by the ranking.

"That's a pretty big deal, especially in a station in a market our size," he said.

Many other stations in the Top 10 are in major media markets in the Northeast. Others range from locations including Nashville, Oklahoma City, Okla., and Seattle. WJOX also made the ranking, finishing fifth.

The station airs various ESPN game broadcasts in addition to UNA basketball games, Atlanta Braves baseball, Florence Falcons sports and the Crimson Tide Sports Network.

"It's really added to our resume having UNA basketball and other UNA programming," Thornton said.

Thornton is pleased with the station's situation, and plans to continue bringing sports to the Shoals airwaves for a long time.

from TimesDaily article by Bernie Delinski

20th ANNIVERSARY 1991 NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



Twenty years after posting the winningest season in the more than 70-year history of the University of North Alabama program, members of UNA's 1991 men's basketball team returned to Flowers Hall on February 5 to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of their 1991 NCAA Division II National Championship.

Under the direction of head coach Gary Elliott, this 1991 team finished with a 29-4 record for the most wins and best winning percentage in school history. The Lions went 16-0 against non-conference opponents, had a 16-2 record on the road and was ranked in the top eight in Division II all season. Perhaps even more impressive is that this team also played the toughest schedule in school history, playing 20 games against teams that won 20 or more games themselves.

The ultimate team, the 1991 Lions had six different players who scored in double-figures more than 20 times each during the season, and three different players scored over 20 points in three

consecutive games at the Elite Eight to lead UNA to wins over Ashland, Virginia Union, and Bridgeport.

The entire coaching staff, 11 former players and two members of the support staff returned to Flowers Hall to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the 79-72 win over Bridgeport that gave UNA its second NCAA Division II Men's Basketball National Championship.

The attendees included Elliott, who spent 15 years as the Lions' head coach and finished as the winningest coach in school history with a strong 270-150 record. He took the Lions to four NCAA tournaments, two conference championships and two regional titles. Also back were assistant coach Billy Gamble, graduate assistant coach Anthony Reid, athletic trainer Kevin McDaniel and manager Conley Bush.

Former players in attendance were Tony Dorsey, **Darryl Hardy ('92)**, Ricky Johnson, Eric Lacy, **Darin Liles ('92)**, Kevin Simmons, Eric Smith, **Fred Stafford ('92)**, Allen Williams and Carl Wilmer, and redshirt **Scott Cooper ('95)**.





Brad ('02) and Sara Holmes ('02)

message from the Alumni President

I am so proud to be an alumnus of UNA and am grateful for the trust you have placed in me as your 2010-2011 UNA Alumni Association President.

As many of you are aware our University is in the midst of a magnificent transformation. For many of us UNA looks and feels different than what we remember from our undergraduate and graduate years on campus. These changes have added to the natural beauty of our campus and that tradition is continuing with renovations and new

construction which will allow our institution to provide a superior education for current and future students. But these enhancements come at a cost, so I ask you: *Have you joined the Pride?*

We are very excited about the new partnership that has been created between your Office of Alumni Relations and the University Foundation. Any contributions to the University Foundation (you select the fund that is a priority to you) enroll you in the UNA Alumni Pride program. This program allows you benefits and gifts to show off the Purple and Gold and keep UNA present in your community while increasing the number of scholarships available for current and potential students.

I hope you will consider making a contribution to UNA. In 2010 only 3% of our alumni gave back to UNA. My goal is to be able to report to you in the fall that we have increased our alumni giving percentage to 10%. Remember, this is not about the size of the contribution it is about the number of us that make a commitment to UNA. Will you join me in showing our current students that their alumni support them?

Let me take a moment to thank those of you who have made a commitment to UNA. The changes that are occurring—the new buildings on campus, the renovations and additions to student housing, the upgrades in athletics, new band uniforms, added scholarships, and the addition of academic programs—have all happened because an alumnus had a vision and took the lead. You have set an amazing example for all of us to follow, thank you!

In addition to the changes occurring on campus your Office of Alumni Relations is traveling more than ever to meet you and tell our story. That effort begins with updating your information. Please go to <http://alumni.una.edu> and update your records today.

As President Cale and our University Trustees lay the groundwork for substantial growth within our University, so too must we, as alumni, lay the ground work for growth in our ranks. This process begins with our first **UNA Alumni Leadership Summit** to be held on campus April 15-16. This two-day event is for anyone who would like to learn valuable skills needed to reconnect with alumni in your area. Please join us as we reach for the future and empower our alumni and friends to lead the charge in developing local chapters/clubs in your area. For more information please contact your Office of Alumni Relations at 256-765-4201 or log on to your website at <http://alumni.una.edu>.

Even as great things are happening to better support each of our alumni, I think it is appropriate to brag on the Office of Alumni. I think it's important to note that under their guidance the UNA Alumni Association has grown our network of alumni chapters and have now met or exceeded the goals set forth in our strategic plan.

Fellow Alumni and Friends of UNA, there is no greater time than now to be a part of our University. I hope you will join me over the next year as we work to add value to your degree and strengthen the love of fond memories of UNA that we all share.

I look forward to the future opportunities that we will all be a part of and am very humbled and proud to be your President.

ROAR LIONS!
Brad Holmes '02, President
UNA Alumni Association
Proud Alumnus

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Bryan Mitchell ('99), *Geography*
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GET INVOLVED WITH THE UNA ALUMNI!



Join UNA Alumni Pride

Becoming a member is easy—
make a contribution to the UNA Foundation

\$25 for alumni who are less than 10 years from undergraduate degree

\$50 minimum for alumni 10 years from graduation

Alumni Pride Membership Includes:

Alumni Pride Card

Alumni Lapel Pin

UNA Alumni OnLion Community

Alumni Magazine

On-site use of Collier Library

10% discount at On-Campus Bookstore

10% discount on Athletic Season tickets

10% discount for UNA Norton Auditorium performances

10% discount on Student Recreational Center fees



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Play a role in your area

Support the mission of your University

(Always wanted to get involved but have not been asked?)

GET ON BOARD!

Join us on April 15 & 16

Register Online at <http://alumni/una.edu/summit>

Office of Alumni Relations 256-765-4201



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UNA HOMECOMING 2010

1. 2010 Educator of the Year Roderick Sheppard ('98, '04 & '07)
2. James Ingram ('78)
3. Joan Jones ('58), Kembrell Jones ('82) and Pamela Tyner
4. Jay Hurt ('87), Lea Hurt ('88) and Amanda, Adam and John Michael
5. Susan Holley, Amanda Terry ('00), Ella Marie and Lisa Clayton ('00 & '02)
6. 2010 Educator of the Year Fran Vest Rowe ('69)
7. 2010 Educator of the Year Kendy Behrends ('87)
8. Bobby Champagne, Max Barnett, Eddie Freeze, Dennis Hargett ('79 & '82) and Troy Barnett
9. Ralph Akalonu and Cierra Smith



7



8



9



JAY HURT '87

UNA ALUMNI *of the* YEAR

By Jason Lankford, Student Intern

Few people working in the media industry can say that they have been involved in the coverage of almost every major American news event during the past 16 years, but **Jay Hurt '87**, the Washington Bureau Chief for NBC News Channel, can claim just that.

Hurt graduated from UNA with a degree in broadcast journalism. UNA holds a special place in his heart because his mother, Bobbie Hurt, taught journalism here for 23 years.

Hurt started working for NBC News Channel in 1993. He served as a senior producer and manager of affiliate services until being promoted to his current position in 1997.

Hurt oversees the channel's editorial and technical operations and manages seven studios that provide nationwide programming for NBC, MSNBC and CNBC. He supervises 25 News Channel employees, 10 studio technicians and managed the studio production crews for nine daily MSNBC shows, including "Hardball with Chris Matthews."

Hurt has worked directly with many of NBC's top on-air personalities, including Tom Brokaw, Katie Couric, Campbell Brown and Al Roker.

He has been heavily involved in the coverage of political campaigns and party conventions, coordinating coverage for the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary in the past three elections, as well as the Democratic and Republican conventions. He also served as coverage coordinator for the inaugurations of Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

Hurt has also been senior producer for the coverage of the Atlanta Olympics and remote producer for the arrest and trial of OJ Simpson, covering every event from the police chase to the pre-trial hearings.

One of the most memorable assignments Hurt recalls was the coverage of the September 11th terrorist attacks. After the reports of the crashes in New York came in, he had to act quickly to organize coverage crews that would be dispatched to New York. He coordinated local crews for coverage of the Pentagon crash site as well.

"Here in Washington we scrambled to get crews to the Pentagon," Hurt said. "We heard word of another plane and everybody was saying its destination was the Capitol. It was a very tough and intense day. The whole city shut down. I remember driving home and the entire city being deserted. It was one of the most surreal experiences I've ever had."





JAMES INGRAM '78

UNA ALUMNI *of the* YEAR

By Jason Lankford, Student Intern



James Ingram '78 has been an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama since May 1987. He is assigned to the criminal division, serving as the asset forfeiture coordinator and lead asset forfeiture attorney for his district.

As a trial attorney, Ingram has prosecuted cases involving bank fraud, securities fraud, drug trafficking and money laundering. He has handled civil and criminal asset forfeiture cases for more than 22 years.

Ingram will soon be going to Washington, D.C., for one year as a trial attorney for the asset forfeiture and money laundering section's international unit. He will be involved in the Department of Justice's asset recovery initiative.

"The objective is to target the recovery of proceeds that have gone to corrupt leaders of foreign countries who have robbed their own people blind," said Ingram. "I hope it's going to be rewarding work and I am quite excited."

Ingram is a member of the Alabama and Virginia bars, and has received the U.S. Department of Justice Director's Award for his contributions to asset forfeiture litigation. He is also an instructor for the department's office of legal education and the asset forfeiture and money laundering section, conducting training for domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies at the federal, state and local levels.

Ingram graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from UNA, receiving a Turris Fidelis award. He earned a Juris Doctorate degree at Cumberland School of Law of Samford University in 1981. He began his career as a trial attorney in Florence for Higginbotham & Whitten, handling cases involving personal injuries, bankruptcy and criminal defense.

Ingram was staff attorney to Associate Justice Janie L. Shores of the Alabama Supreme Court, reviewing appellate briefs, doing legal research and preparing court opinions. He established a private practice in 1984 in Birmingham, litigating civil and criminal cases.

Ingram was a staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Birmingham, practicing in the Alabama Family Court of Jefferson County. He was responsible for the investigation, preparation and trials of delinquency, dependency and paternity cases.



KEMBREL JONES '82

UNA ALUMNI *of the* YEAR

By Jason Lankford, Student Intern

Kembrel Jones '82 is known by many at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania as the "Dean of Happiness." As the deputy vice dean of student life at Wharton, he tends to the needs of 1,650 MBA students, planning recreational activities and offering counseling services for students who need someone to be there for them.

Jones graduated from UNA with a bachelor's degree in marketing and organizational management. He later earned a Master of Education degree and a Doctor of Education in Administration, Planning and Social Policy degree from Harvard University, as well as a Master of Business Administration degree from Emory University.

Throughout his career Jones has held many positions in the education field. He was assistant director of admissions at Miami University, assistant dean and director of student activities at Birmingham-Southern College, director of alumni relations and annual giving at UNA, assistant dean of MBA programs and assistant professor in the practice of marketing at the Goizueta Business School of Emory University, and vice president of institutional advancement at Savannah College of Art and Design.

Jones has a special attachment to UNA because he is the son of former basketball Coach **Bill Jones '58**. When he returned to UNA as director of alumni relations, Jones created the first program for annual giving, established 50 new scholarships, created the *UNA Magazine* and raised \$500,000 as part of the Coca-Cola Dream Challenge.

In his current position at Wharton, Jones aims to debunk stereotypes that people have about business majors and demonstrate that the students are not only bright, motivated and capable, but they are kind and fun-loving people as well. As the self-described "Dr. Phil of Huntsman Hall," he provides emotional support and a shoulder to cry on for students who feel inundated or just need someone to talk to.

After completing his first two years as the "Dean of Happiness," Jones feels like he has taken care of the basics and created a good foundation, but aims to forge ahead, challenging himself to improve the lives of all the students in his care and make Wharton into much more than a prestigious business school.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Created to recognize and honor alumni or non-alumni who have left lasting impressions on this campus, a brick in a permanent location in our Alumni Victory Garden is dedicated to the winners.



Dr. Kenneth Ray Johnson



Dr. Jack Sellers

Dr. Kenneth Ray Johnson

taught history at UNA for 30 years, beginning in 1966. He served as department chair, published more than 30 articles in professional journals and introduced three new courses: History of Urban America, History of Afro-Americans, and Historical Research. One of his specialties was Alabama history, which he taught for 18 years.

He is very active in his church and community as well, giving presentations about local history, editing the *Journal of Muscle Shoals Music History* and helping to organize the North Alabama Conference Historical Society of the United Methodist Church.

Johnson has held positions in several local organizations, including the Florence Historical Board, the Tennessee Valley Historical Society and the UNA Institute for Learning in Retirement.

In 1971, **Dr. Jack Sellers** became UNA's first full time Social Work faculty member. He developed a nationally accredited social work program and set up student volunteer opportunities in the local community during his 36 years as chair of the social work department.

In 2006, the City of Florence presented Sellers with a certificate of commendation for his role in establishing numerous social work programs, including the Single Parent Mentor program and the North Alabama Girls Group Home.

He was also awarded the Significant Lifetime Achievement Award from a national social work organization and received the 25-year Professional Service Award from the Alabama Conference of Social Work.

He continues to serve his community as a board member of several organizations, including the Lauderdale County Department of Human Resources and the Westminster Interfaith Caring Place.

MILITARY SERVICE AWARDS

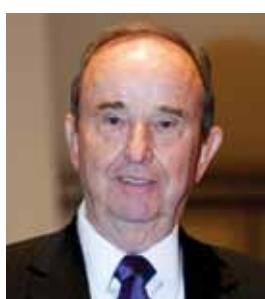
recognize the men and women from our armed services who have chosen careers dedicated to the service of our country and to the protection of each one of us.



Col. Edgar Wylie '63

Col. Edgar Wylie '63 was a Distinguished Military Graduate from Florence State College. He has completed tours in Korea, Vietnam and Turkey, serving as Battalion Commander for the 7th Infantry Division and Chief of the Army Section for the Joint U.S. Military Mission for Assistance to Turkey. He has also been an ROTC instructor at Vanderbilt University.

Wylie has received numerous awards, including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Joint Services Commendation Medal.



Col. Don York '60

After graduating from Florence State College, **Col. Don York '60** received a Regular Army Commission. He served as platoon leader, company commander and special weapons officer for the 4th Armored Division in Germany. York was Intelligence Staff Officer at the Pentagon, Special Security Officer at the Headquarters of European Command in Germany, Special Agent in Charge in Tampa, Fla., and Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence in the Central Army Group of NATO.

York's final command position was as Brigade Commander at the United States Army Intelligence Center and School. He retired in 1986, after 28 years of service.

POLITICAL SERVICE AWARD Nominated by peers, these recipients serve their state, regional, or local government in an elected or appointed position and bring recognition to this University because of their influence and dedicated service.



Tammy Irons '86

Tammy Irons '86 served as a member of the Alabama House of Representatives.

Irons is an attorney and the owner of Irons Law Firm in Florence. As a member of the state house, she served on numerous committees, including the ADECA Oversight Committee and the Commission on Government Accountability.

Irons was the chair of the Elder Justice Committee and the Alabama Families Study Commission. She is the former president of the Lauderdale County Bar Association, and a former member of the Shoals Economic Development Authority

and Shoals Entrepreneurial Center. She serves on the Lauderdale County Children's Policy Council, Inc. and she is past president, Lauderdale County Bar Association.

A member of UNA President's Cabinet and the Muscle Shoals Music Association, Irons was awarded the Howell T. Heflin Justice Award by the Unified Judicial System for her work on the Juvenile Justice Reform Act and received an NAACP James R. Cobb Leadership Award in 2010. She was recently elected to the Alabama State Senate in Nov. 2010.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS are for extraordinary service to their community, in order to recognize model citizens who have given long-term involvement professionally and as a volunteer where they live.



Wimpy Gillespie '56

Wimpy Gillespie '56 graduated from Florence State Teachers College. He was a teacher in Lawrence County for 30 years. Gillespie, an avid outdoorsman, used his knowledge of Alabama forests and wildlife to educate young people about environmental issues and natural resource conservation during his volunteer work with 4-H clubs in local schools.

Gillespie's commitment to 4-H earned him the W. Kelly Moseley Award of Achievement in Forestry and Wildlife and an induction into the Alabama Farmers Federation 4-H Hall of Fame in 2009. He established and raised funding for the 4-H scholarship program and served as the local club leader and volunteer for 24 years until retirement.

Gillespie was also awarded the Salute to Excellence Award, and was honored in Washington, D.C.

veterans' groups at local and national levels.

Higgins served as a member of the Florence Historical Board for over 20 years as a project officer for Pope's Tavern Museum, and is currently a substitute curator for the Florence Department of Arts and Museums and a military history consultant for regional museums.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting, **Joel Kimbrough '80** was employed by Ernst & Young, LLP in Memphis, Tenn. In 1989, he became vice president of finance, then chief financial officer of a for-profit branch of Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center. The Company was one of the premiere pediatric home care companies in the country, and the predecessor to Accredo Health, Inc., where in March of 1996, he became Chief Financial Officer. He donated money to build a wing of the hospital where families could stay while their children were being treated.

Kimbrough serves on the board of the Regional Medical Center at Memphis and the board of the Trust One Bank and Audit Committee for Aldagen, Inc. He is currently a partner with The Barnett Group and serves as chairman for the Make-a-Wish Foundation of the Mid-South. He hosts fundraisers at his home and is known as the "man with the big heart."



Wayne Higgins '71 & '76

Wayne Higgins '71 & '76 obtained a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in school administration and supervision of instruction.

He taught in the Florence City School System for 36 years, earning the Florence City Teacher of the Year award and the VFW Teacher of the Year award for the State of Alabama. Higgins received the Governor's Volunteer Award in Education and the Outstanding Service Award from the Alabama State House of Representatives.

He was the director of the Wheeler Rifles Drill and Ceremony Team, and received more than 30 awards from



Joel Kimbrough '80

FACULTY/ STAFF SERVICE AWARDS are presented to successful alumni among peers from UNA. The award winners possess far-reaching, long-term involvement and influence with students, organizations, and colleagues at the University.



Karen Hodges '84



Pam Kingsbury '81



Tina Sharp '79 & '92

Karen Hodges '84 graduated from UNA and she is now employed as Creative Director for University Publications. For 23 years Hodges has lent her creative talents and technical expertise to every department on campus by designing brochures, posters, handouts and magazines.

Hodges is a patient, dedicated and committed staff member who works long hours. She is married to UNA Sports Information Director Jeff Hodges and she is the mother of three children: Dillon, Melanie and Shanna.

Pam Kingsbury '81 has been an English instructor at UNA since 2003. She has chaired the Writer's Series Committee for the past four years. She has also served on the English Department's Scholarship Committee, the Sophomore Committee, and the Publications Committee.

In 2005, Enolam Press published *Inner Voices, Inner Views*, a collection of Kingsbury's interviews with Southern authors. She has served two terms on the Alabama Writer's Forum Board and has been serving on the Alabama Book Festival Committee since the festival's inception.

Tina Sharp '79 & '92 began working in the UNA Registrar's Office the year she completed her undergraduate degree as a secretary. She moved up the ranks, eventually earning her current position as Associate Registrar. She oversees numerous functions related to enrollment services and student data as part of UNA's Enrollment Management Team. She was a team leader for student data while implementing two different software systems.

Sharp is a member of the Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers and the Alabama Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers. She received a service award from the division of student affairs in 1999. She is married to Mark Sharp and has two daughters: Juliana and Jenalane; and one granddaughter: Brook.

PROMISING ALUMNI AWARDS are selected by UNA faculty and staff who select seniors excelling in leadership, scholastics, character, service, and potential.

Breann Boughton
Thomas Corum
Cory Hamilton
Bethany Oliver
Matthew Van Ormer
Katherine Posey
John Sercel
Joseph Thigpen
Katie Todd



Breann Boughton



Thomas Corum



Cory Hamilton



Bethany Oliver



Katherine Posey



John Sercel



Joseph Thigpen



Katie Todd

FRIEND OF THE UNIVERSITY AWARD honors those who promote the mission of the University by their donation of time, resources, and energy. They are UNA patrons, silently seeking to select deserving causes and special interests where they can share their expertise and talents.



Heather Brown '97 & '01

Brad Green '91

The not-for-profit, member-owned financial institution **Listerhill Credit Union** began in 1952 and has been grounded in the philosophy of "People

Helping People." The institution has grown to include over 67,000 members, \$430 million in assets and 17 branches in 12 counties. Listerhill employs 46 UNA alumni,

36 members of their current staff are UNA students, and they have hosted 28 interns over the past 20 years.

The UNA - Listerhill friendship began almost 20 years ago when the credit union helped to establish the College of Business' Eminent Scholars Program and later endowed two scholarships. Listerhill has partnered with UNA's Office of Continuing Studies and Outreach to meet their leadership and management development training needs, and formed an alliance with UNA Business students to work jointly in conducting valuable marketing research. Listerhill created "CUTIP," a voucher system that allows area children to attend

UNA athletic events free of charge. In July, Listerhill created a student-operated credit union, "The Hill," and a Center for Financial Literacy, providing students and young people with sound financial advice in a peer-to-peer environment. Finance, economics, and education majors will have the opportunity to become certified in financial literacy and be able to take their new skills into their communities as they graduate, to have an even more far-reaching impact. Listerhill's generous gift will also make it possible for this Center to be housed in a new Academic Center and Student Commons Building.

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD is most appropriate as the University has a long-standing reputation as an outstanding institution for teacher education and administration. Award winners cover the breadth from administration in both K-12 education and higher education.

Kendy Behrends '87

earned a master's degree from UNA and an Ed.D. in instructional leadership from the University of Alabama.

After serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines, Behrends became an elementary school teacher and served as director for Title XX programs. She later became a part-time adjunct professor of Ed.S. courses at UNA and the University of Alabama.

Behrends was the superintendent of Florence City Schools for nine years, retiring in 2010. She was appointed to the State Teacher Tenure Commission and was recognized by the Shoals Multicultural Council as a leader in promoting diversity.

She has received the Lifetime Leadership Award in the Women of Distinction Program, sponsored by Girl Scouts of North Alabama, Inc. and is included in *Who's Who in American Education*.

After graduating in 1969, **Fran Vest Rowe** immediately began her career as an elementary and middle school teacher. She helped establish an elementary school library and created a curriculum plan that included history of the local community.

Rowe raised more than \$10,000 for St. Jude's Hospital and organized workshops and leadership training sessions. She received the President's Volunteer Service Award, and was VFW's Teacher of the Year, State Middle

School Teacher of the Year and received the National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

Rowe was a student council advisor for 11 years, during which she organized and led many activities and raised funds for charitable causes that benefitted victims of Hurricane Katrina. During her teaching career she also earned a master's degree in Education.

Roderick Sheppard '98, '04 & '07

, a 2005 NAACP President's Award winner, has made a career out of helping young people reach their full potential by making the most of their educational experience.

He has been a social studies teacher, an assistant football coach and an

assistant principal. He is currently the principal at the Florence Freshman Center and district president for the Alabama Association of Secondary School Principals.

Sheppard is a mentor to young people in other ways as well. He is a Sunday school teacher and member of the Seven Sons Mentoring Program. He is the president of the alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha on the UNA campus and has been the Master of Ceremonies at a number of events, including the Martin Luther King, Jr., Unity Breakfast.

By Jason Lankford
Student Intern



ROTC Celebration Brings Hundreds of Veterans to UNA Campus

By Lucy Berry
Student Writer for University Communications

UNA alumnus **Robert Jackson**, who was commissioned as a U.S. Army officer at the Memorial Amphitheatre in 1963, never anticipated what lessons he would learn through three combat tours in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic or what impact he would ultimately have on the military.

Jackson, who was the keynote speaker at the 60th anniversary ROTC Veterans Day celebration on Nov. 11, which honored 1,105 commissioned cadets at UNA since 1950, was thrilled to come together with hundreds of people who had served their country.

"I've grown to appreciate Veterans Day more," he said. "When I came back from Vietnam to Los Angeles, there was a low appreciation for the military, but I've begun to see more and more of an appreciation over the years, as I've seen my son

and what he sacrificed in combat, the close friends we lost in the war, and the people who risk their lives to serve and do their part."

The celebration, which took place at the Amphitheatre, attracted a wide blend of UNA graduates, war veterans, current cadets, and family and friends of soldiers. A 60th anniversary luncheon honoring more than 70 current corps cadets and Lion Battalion alumni followed the ceremony.

Cadet Battalion Commander Joseph Thigpen, who was recognized as one of UNA's most promising alumni and is in the top 10 percent of more than 5,300 cadets in the nation, also spoke at the celebration.

"The event was very successful and I was extremely pleased to meet and hear the stories of some of the veterans who had served in

combat," said LTC Michael Snyder, Lion Battalion Commander and chair of the Department of Military Science. "What was common amongst everybody was that they had all participated and served in the Lion Battalion. The current cadets got to interact with the veterans and hear their stories that helped define them for their careers in the years to come."

Jackson, a U.S. Army officer with the infantry branch from 1963 to 1976 and recipient of the Purple Heart, Silver Star and five Bronze Stars, was featured in Walter Cronkite's 1970 Emmy Award-winning documentary "The World of Charlie Company," which guests were able to view at UNA during the day-long commemoration.

Reflecting on his own leadership experience in the military, Jackson reached out to young cadets at the 60th anniversary celebration about what it takes to be a successful leader today.

"You have to know your job, know your code and know your people," he said. "You need to be an expert in your field and be the go-to person who does things best and who people come to. You need to know your code, which is another way of saying you need to know yourself. You have to know your people and their strengths and weaknesses. You have to give yourself up, do the hard work and make the difficult decisions."

UNA President Dr. William Cale, Jr., also gave his respects to veterans at the Nov. 11 program and outlined UNA's long military history. He said 288 soldiers who studied at UNA served in World War I, leaving six dead. After the Amphitheatre was built in 1936, 15 of 318 UNA soldiers died in World War II. When soldiers returned to college on the G.I. Bill, 17 officers were commissioned for the first time on UNA's campus in 1950.

Retired LTC Larry Allen, a Huntsville resident who graduated from UNA in 1975, was among the hundreds of veterans who attended the 60th anniversary celebration.

"It was a wonderful opportunity for a reunion with the guys I graduated with," Allen said. "It was good to visit Wesleyan Hall and I was very impressed with the current crop of ROTC cadets. One of the highlights of my day was getting to know the military cadre."

At the celebration Dr. Alan Medders, vice president of University Advancement, challenged the veterans to contribute to the ROTC Scholarship Fund, which gives deserving students the opportunity to become future military leaders while gaining an education at UNA.

The scholarships, which are awarded to students for two, three and four years, help alleviate the costs of tuition and textbooks, offer



a stipend for living expenses, provide room and board, and give paid summer internship, training and study abroad opportunities for those who are qualified. The overall value of a four-year ROTC scholarship is \$60,000.

Retired military analyst and government contractor **Frank Bush**, a 1975 UNA graduate and infantry officer who served tours in Korea and Germany, donated to the scholarship fund and traveled from Florida to attend the 60th anniversary celebration.

"It was great to see the campus and the new buildings and changes that have happened over the years," he said. "The scholarship fund continues the ROTC program as it is a good thing to have on campus and is part of the legacy of the university."

To view the photo album of the 60th Anniversary Reunion go to www.alumni.una.edu. For more information about how to donate to the ROTC Scholarship Fund, contact UNA Advancement at 256-765-4670 or make your gift online at the above link.



ROTC LION BATTALION CELEBRATING SIX DECADES OF SERVICE



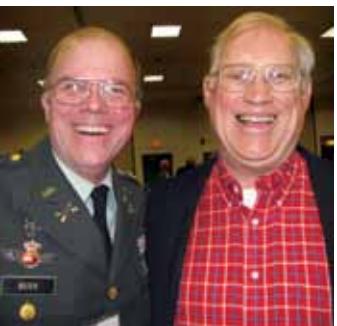
Walter Ingle ('50) and Wayne Brown ('50)



Jackie ('70) and Jim Noles ('67)



Peggy and Richard Allen ('63)



Frank Bush ('75) and Bob Proctor ('61)



Mel McLemore ('60), Billy Don Anderson ('62) and Tom Greenhaw ('60)



NEW CREATIONS

As a nationally known fashion designer, Marigail Mathis was always creating something, whether it was a new clothing line or a new women's store. Now, a year after her death, she's still creating. This time, her creation is this: the opportunity for a successful fashion career like hers.

The Marigail Mathis Endowed Scholarship memorializes Marigail's life and career by paving the way financially for students wishing to study merchandising and fashion design at UNA.

"Marigail always wanted to be remembered as a mentor for young women and men," said Marigail's husband, artist Tommy Mathis. "She'd be so delighted to know they can fulfill their dreams and passions because of an opportunity like this."

Build Your Own Creation!



To create life-changing opportunities through a UNA endowed scholarship, contact Melissa Pettus, coordinator of endowed scholarships, at 256-765-4757 or rmpettus@una.edu.

SHOW YOUR LION PRIDE!

The UNA National Alumni Association VISA® Card is the only card that rewards you while benefitting UNA.



Apply today at www.una.edu/alumni/rewards



A DIALOGUE OF RELIGION

April 12, 2011 • 7 p.m. • GUC Performance Center

A discussion and Q&A with leaders of the Christian, Jewish and Islamic faiths:

Dr. Stephen Prothero, Professor of Religion, Boston University

Rabbi Micah Greenstein, Temple Israel, Memphis

Bishop William Willimon, United Methodist Church, North Alabama Conference

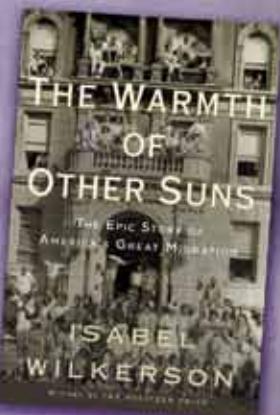
Sheikh Ossama Bahloul, Imam, Islamic Center of Murfreesboro

ADMISSION IS FREE

UNA WRITERS' SERIES



Isabel Wilkerson
is reading from her narrative non-fiction
THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS
on Thursday, April 14th, 2011 at 12:30
in the Performance Center of the GUC.



A booksigning and reception will follow
at 2 pm in the Loft of the GUC.
The event is free and open to the public.

Anyone who wants more information
can contact the English Department
(256) 765-4238.

Sponsored by
 Department of English
University of NORTH ALABAMA

FREE



LEGENDS *of the* FALL



Andy Morris ('76) and Terrance Witherspoon ('79)



Mike Thorn ('82), Herbie Jones, Jeff Patterson ('81) and Hamp Moore ('82)



Steve Pierce ('75) and Clarence Johnson



Jerry Hill ('81)



Don Smith ('83) and Paul Pressley ('81)



DJ Thomas ('82)



Barry Koehn ('75), Spry Mitchell, and Susan and Frankie ('73) Patterson



Olie McGee ('82), Fred Riley ('82), Mike McGowen, Ronnie Lewey ('82), Sam Moore, and Rod Brooks ('83)



Burnis Rose, Stan Walker ('80), Judy Jackson ('91 & '02) and Luther Bivens ('80)



Billy ('73) and Jan ('73) Hargrove, Roger Ferrell ('76), Nancy Trowbridge, Kathy ('73) and Wendell ('73) Hathorn



Bubba Gibson ('78), Jerry Mizell ('76) and Ed Ball



Lonzie McGants ('82)



John Byrd ('78), Clark Galen ('78), Lana Roberts Nale and Jeff Hittinger ('78)



Chuck McCurley ('85)



Bimol Poole ('55) and Bobby Bowden



Anne Wilson and George Lindsey ('52)



Grady Liles and Garner Ezzell ('78 & '88)



Dick Pollard ('49), Don Parker ('52), Bimol Poole ('55), Ed Burrows ('53), George Lindsey ('52), Chuck Beard, Billy Morris, John Benton ('57), Harold Hargrove ('49), Karl Bradley, Shirley Self ('60 & '70), Joe Brewer ('55)

Football players from the original team from 1950 (Legends of the Fall), Coach Mickey Andrews teams from 1973-1976, and the 1980 GSC championship team returned during football season, spent time together telling stories, reliving moments of glory and catching up with a lifetime of friendships.

In planning a reunion **"Bubba" Gibson ('78)** said, "The biggest win of our reunion should be in the coming weeks, months, and years as we stay connected and stay in touch. We will appreciate each other more as time goes on and in all likelihood we will probably need one another more than ever. Health, happiness, and friendship will count more and more each day for all of us. We have friends and family, but collectively we are each other's giant extended family. So I look forward to seeing my brothers in Blood, Sweat, and Tears this weekend. Let's light that Victory Torch one more time and be thankful that we can once again say proudly, 'Go Lions!'"





Liberty Mutual is a proud partner of
UNA Alumni Association

For additional information about Liberty Mutual and our car
and home insurance, please contact us at 800-524-9400 or visit us
[at libertymutual.com/unaalumni](http://libertymutual.com/unaalumni).

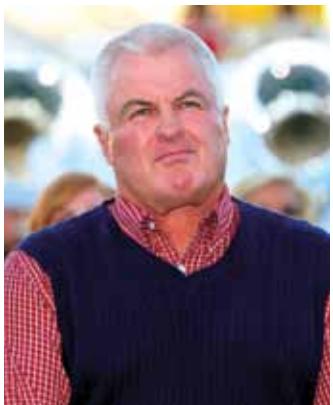


Responsibility. What's your policy?



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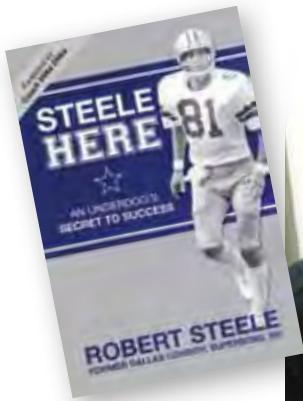
UNA ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



Steve Carter 1978 - 80



Billy Gamble 1988 - 02



Robert Steele ('78)



Kenyatta Jones 1993 - 94



Alan Pate 1993 - 96



Shirley Tucker Cheatwood, Bobby Irons ('65), Grady Liles and Dick Yoder



41 Roy Stevens 1964 - 90



Michael Williams 1992 - 95



Carol Lyles ('70), Joan Jones ('58) and Otis Boddie





CLASS NOTES

19 60s

Rebecca F. Franklin ('64) is a retired educator after 32 years. She and her husband, Larry, are enjoying their family and grandchildren. They get plenty of exercise by raising beef cattle on their farm near Sulligent, Ala.

Marvin Mac Butram ('69) was elected to Alabama House of Representatives, District 2, Cullman County.

19 70s

Jean Gay Musselman ('72) has written a book on an unforgettable journey across two centuries of Southern culture, generations of family tradition, and a taste of genuine Southern Cooking. With more than 100 stories and 160-plus Southern recipes, *Potluck, Postscripts & Potpourri* unveils the treasures of place, family, friends, food, and history, embracing life and rekindling memories of the good things that bring us happiness and daily reinforce the joys of living. Jean Gay is president and CEO of Eldercare Services, which she founded in 1996 to provide in-home care for the aging. She lives in Florence with her husband David.

Danny Kimble ('73) is the athletic Director of Gadsden City Schools.

The Florida Bankers Association named **Robbie Briggs Roepstorff ('73)** and her husband Geoffrey bankers

of the year in 2010. The husband and wife team run Edison National Bank in Fort Myers, Fla.

John Connell ('75) is the Chair and Professor of Christian Studies at Shorter College in Rome, Ga.

Roger Ferrell ('76) is the owner of Varsity Computing in Decatur, Ala.

Jerry Mizell ('76) is the division Manager of Alabama Gas Company and lives in Gadsden, Ala.

Francis Stephen Bridges ('77) is a professor of Community Health Education at the University of West Florida in Pensacola.

James "Buddy" Childs ('77) is an Operations Specialist for the Kellogg's Company in Euharlee, Ga.

Garner Ezell ('78) is the Curriculum Director for Athens City Schools.

Joe "Bubba" Gibson ('78) is the Director of Organizational Development for the East Region of Coca Cola Bottling Company. He and his wife **Lucile Lawley Gibson ('78)** live in Dadeville, Ala.

Gerald Goodman ('78) is the president and tournament director of the Transitions Golf Championships in Florida.

Len Harvey ('78) is the executive director of the Premier Health and Fitness Center in Tallassee, Fla.

Robert Steele ('78) is the president/owner of PrimeWire

and lives in the Atlanta area. He has just written a book *Steele Here*. The book's debut was held at the Florence Lauderdale Public Library where Robert was greeted by many of his Phi Gamma Delta fraternity brothers.

Bob Martin ('79) is a dentist and lives in Ft. Deposit, Ala.

19 80s

Marcene Emmett ('80) is a human resource manager at ThyssenKrupp Steel and Stainless USA. He and his wife **Sabrena ('82)** live in Mobile, Ala.

Lori Aylsworth Stallings ('80) has been at the University of Memphis for three years where she is currently Director of Graduate Teaching Assistant Development. In addition to her work at UM she is also pursuing a Ph.D. in Rhetoric. Her husband Paul is a Senior Programmer Analyst at The Med, and they spend their free time doing home renovation projects.

Stan Walker ('80) is the senior director of major gifts at the University of North Texas in Denton. He and his wife, Patricia, live in Flower Mound, Texas.

Dianne Hart ('81) was one of 500 artists chosen worldwide to be a member of the Society of Decorative Painters. She created an ornament that has been on exhibit at the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian Institute. She is the owner of "Art By Hart," a working

studio in downtown Madison, Ala.

Donna Akins ('82) was named Sheffield Kiwanis Club's Citizen of the Year. She has been serving more than 27 years at the Arc of the Shoals, holding the executive director position for over 17 years.

Brad Botes ('83) founder and partner of Bond, Botes, Reese and Shinn law firm was recognized by the Birmingham Volunteers Lawyers Program as the 2010 Volunteer Firm of the Year.

Steve Richter ('84) was recently named vice president and business development officer by U.S. Bank Institutional Trust and Custody in Birmingham. He is responsible for the development of new business for the bank's Institutional Trust and Custody division in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

David O. Martin ('86) is currently serving as Vice Chairman of CityView which is one of the nation's premier institution investment firms focusing on urban real estate, inner-city housing, and metropolitan infrastructure. He is also the founder of The Martin Group and has served as Chairman since 1984. He is located in Los Angeles, Calif.

Darryl Worley ('87) has recently broken ground on the Darryl Worley Cancer Treatment Center, scheduled to open in Savannah in 2011.

19 90s

Christopher Lilly ('90) is the executive chef of Big Bob Gibson Bar-B-Q. He is a nationally recognized pitmaster and recently participated in the third annual Celebrity Chef event in Morgan County, Ala.

Jason Adkins ('94) was recently sworn in as the newly-elected Superintendent of Walker County Schools. Approximately 100 people gathered in the Community Health Services Activities Center to witness this ceremony.

Former UNA quarterback **Cody Gross ('96)** has been named head football coach at Wilson High School in Florence. Gross spent the 2010 season as an assistant coach at Sparkman High School after three years as head coach at Colbert County High School. A member of the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame, his coaching resume also includes stops at Lauderdale County High School, Athens High School, UNA, and Delta State University.

Nick Ray ('96) is currently serving as pastor at the Lynn Church of God in Lynn, Ala. He and his wife Carlinda live in Hamilton, Ala., with their two children.

Former UNA football All-American **Reginald Ruffin ('98)** enters his first season as the head football coach at Miles College after five years as the defensive coordinator and linebacker coach at Tuskegee University. At Tuskegee his defenses were annually at the top of the SIAC (Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) standings. During his playing days at UNA, Ruffin was a three-time All-American and is the school's only player to win All-American honors in two positions, defensive end and linebacker. Ruffin is married to Monica and they have one child, Gabriel.

Claude Eubanks ('98) was recently selected by the University of Alabama Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering as one of their Centennial Fellows. He was recognized in the 100 most outstanding alumni of the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of Alabama. He is currently a professor at Northwest Shoals Community College.

20 00s

Matthew Johnson ('02) is an engineer/songwriter at Noiseblock Studios in downtown Florence. An album from the Popstars program, a reality/competition program similar to American Idol in Germany, will be released featuring tracks written by Johnson.

William J. Dean ('03) recently finished a nearly five-month deployment to Afghanistan. During his deployment he was assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Miss. He was part of NMCB-133 where its mission was to provide construction support to improve the living and working quarters for the 30,000 troops needed in Afghanistan.

Leslia Carter ('05) has been promoted to administrator of Post-Acute Rehabilitation Services at North Mississippi Medical Center. Before her promotion, Carter served as director of the NMMC Home Health and Hospice since 2005. She is a member of National Association of Home Care and Hospice, Home Care and Hospice Financial Managers Association, Home Care Technology Association of America, Hospital Home Care Association of America, National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, and Cerner Corporation Advisory Board.

Will Hall ('04) is in his first season as head football coach at the University of West Alabama after serving as the school's offensive coordinator

for the past three seasons under former UNA head coach Bobby Wallace. Hall helped lead the Tigers to the 2009 NCAA Playoffs. Before joining the UWA staff, Hall previously was an assistant at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, Southwest Baptist University, Presbyterian College (S.C.) and Henderson State. A Harlon Hill Trophy winner, the Amory, Miss., native quarterbacked UNA to the semifinals of the NCAA playoffs in 2003 with a 13-1 record. He is married to the former Rebecca Randle, of Amory, Miss., and they reside in Livingston with son Will "Tripp" Hall with another son expected in March.

Justin M. Bishop ('06) is working in commercial real estate brokerage and development at Pounders & Associates, Inc., in Florence, Ala. He specializes in land, multi-family, site selection, and income-producing properties.

James M. Mock ('06) completed a Master's in Education this past fall and is awaiting state certification.

Chris Bethea ('07) is the house engineer at Noiseblock Studios in downtown Florence. An album, produced by Noiseblock Studios from the Popstars program, a reality/competition program similar to American Idol in Germany, will be released in Germany. It is expected to be a big hit in Europe.

Kevin McCarley ('07) is father of Michael McCarley, who will be featured in Luke Broyle's short film, "Michael," which will be shown at the George Lindsey UNA Film Festival during the Young Filmmaker's block. Luke, who is eleven, made the film about his friend Michael McCarley, showing how Michael overcomes the challenges of cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and cortical visual impairment.

Amy E. Garrison ('08) was appointed the Director of Student Life at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C. Amy is currently in the second

year of the Doctorate of Education: Higher Education Administration program at George Washington University. She is the City Sponsorship Chair for the D.C. chapter of Delta Gamma Fraternity and is a volunteer reader with the Columbia Light House for the Blind. Amy lives in Alexandria, Va., with **Brian Beall ('07)** and their two dogs.

Christopher R. Pigg ('09) is working for Phi Gamma Delta and traveling the mid-Atlantic Region (Charleston, S.C., and Philadelphia, Pa.)

20 10s

Jacob H. Cude ('10) recently received a Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal while serving as radio operator, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines, 4th Marine Division stationed out of Huntsville.

William B. Hodges ('10) is currently a Graduate Assistant at the University of Alabama seeking a Master's Degree in advertising and public relations.

Non-Graduating Alum

Former UNA baseball All-American **Josh Willingham** was traded to the Oakland Athletics in December of 2010 and will be spending his first season in the American League. Set to begin his eighth season in the Major Leagues, Willingham has played five years with the Florida Marlins and two with the Washington Nationals and has a .265 career batting average with 103 home runs and 336 runs batted in. His donations to the UNA baseball program resulted in the opening of the Josh Willingham Hitting Facility at Mike Lane Field last fall.



UNA HOMECOMING 2010



Leah and Mark Tucker with Laney Beth and Shelia ('70) and Joe Tucker ('70), Tucker and Heather with Melissa and James Medlin

Several students from Florence and Striplin residence halls have organized an effort to commemorate these buildings with a permanent limestone memorial in the vicinity of the entrance to UNA. More details regarding the marker and potential scholarship will be forthcoming but the immediate need is for funds to purchase the memorial.

For additional information join us on Facebook
UNA Alumni Striplin Hall and Florence Hall.

**DEDICATION WILL BE
2011 Homecoming September 24**



Sherri Stewart ('69), Peggy Dudley Scott ('70), Wynell Brewer Chapman ('70), Shelia Maddox Tucker ('70), Bob Seeley ('68), Larry Chapman ('70), Dennis Taylor ('71), Joe Tucker, Fran Vest Rowe ('69) and Faye Hunter Torstrick ('65)



Jennifer Steffen Kimble ('97), Sam Thigpen ('11), Cory Hamilton, Katrina Brown ('05), Ryan Brake ('95), Michelle Rupe Eubanks ('96), Graham Sisson ('87), Tim Ray ('80), Randy McCann ('77), Jim Page ('01), Gene Hamby ('65), Robert Smith ('81), Ed Gosa ('62), Bishop Alexander ('09), Glenn Harscheid ('94), Winn Brewer ('09) and Jerry White ('60) at the SGA President's Breakfast.



**2010 UNA
GEOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR**
Jesse Glasgow ('98)



Lisa Keys-Mathews ('85), Dave ('78) and Mimi ('78) Kirkland



Laura ('55) and Don Harrison



Fiji's at Robert Steele's ('78) Book Signing



Ladies of the 60s



Mickey and Diane Andrews

The advertisement features a purple sign with gold lettering and a yellow border. The sign reads "UNA SPORTSMAN'S CLUB CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC". Above the sign is a circular logo containing a yellow bear head. Below the sign, the date "MAY 2, 2011" is displayed in gold. Underneath the date, the location is given as "ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL AT THE SHOALS UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA". At the bottom, the text "Register online at www.una.edu/celebritygolfclassic" is shown.

2011 spring 45 UNA Magazine



IN MEMORY

YEARS UNIDENTIFIED

George J. Ellis, Jr., was an army veteran who served in the Korean War and enlisted in the National Guard. He was a member of the National Rifle Association, North Alabama Shooters Association, and the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He retired after serving more than 40 years at Reynolds Metals company.

Patricia Davis Emmons was a member of the Killen United Methodist Church and the Killen Library Board. She was co-chairman of Friends of the Library and received a resolution from the Killen Town Council for all her hard work and dedication to the town of Killen and the Killen Library. She also enjoyed many years as a teacher and a "Dorm Mother" at Florence State Teachers College.

James D. Ingram, Sr., retired from Ford Motor Company in Sheffield, Ala. He was a member of the Historical Preservation Society and loved to collect, restore, and sell antiques. He was a longtime member of the First Methodist Church in Florence.

Pauline Gravlee was well known to UNA as an administrator and dean of women beginning in 1954. An endowed scholarship known as the Pauline E. Gravlee Leadership Scholarship awards a female student who exhibits superior leadership throughout her college year. She served as a volunteer at Eliza Coffee Memorial Hospital in Florence until 2009 and was a valued member of the First Baptist Church.

Ross Palmer was a member of the Lauderdale County Civil Service Board of Appeals. He retired from Reynolds

Metals Company in 1996 after working there 39 years. He was a longtime member of Rogersville United Methodist Church, and was a 50-year member of Rogersville Masonic Lodge. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard the battleship Iowa and was elected to three terms on the Rogersville City Council.

Don Siegelman appointed him to the State Board of Appeals for Unemployment Compensation and Gov. Bob Riley reappointed him in 2005.

years. He was also known for ministering over 19 years in Helen, Ga., at Unicoi Springs Camp Resort.

John R. Bush ('59) worked as a safety director for Jimmy Dean Foods for more than 16 years before his retirement in 2001. He also worked at U.S. Reduction for several years and served in the Alabama National Guard, Sheffield unit, for six years. While attending UNA he played basketball and baseball. For many years he served as a high school basketball and football official in the area.

1930s

Ruth O. Scarborough ('32) graduated in the first four-year class at Florence State Teacher's College in 1931. She taught school in Linville and at Deshler High School before joining the faculty at Coffee High School. After raising her children, she returned to teaching until retiring in 1974. She was a member of the Florence Piano Ensemble, the Florence Music Club, and taught piano for many years.

1950s

Florence native **James R. Bobo ('50)** began his teaching career in Mississippi at East Central Junior College. He later earned his Ph.D. in economics from LSU and joined the faculty at the University of New Orleans. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He retired in 1999 and returned to Florence.

Mary Hue LaMarsh ('50) was a teacher for over 40 years, retiring in 1989. She earned a bachelor's degree from Florence State in Business Education and a master's from Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn. She was an active member at First Baptist Church of Center Point, Ala.

Carl Boley ('53) was employed for 34 years in the Sheffield City School System, during 18 of which he was the superintendent of education. He also served a year as director of public relations for the Alabama Education Association. After he and his wife relocated to Knoxville, Tenn., Carl was employed as personnel director for the Anderson Companies, where he retired in 2007.

Madre Thorn ('46) taught and then had a long career at Blue Bell. She retired to her family farm with her husband and was a member of the Alabama Lady Cattlemen's Association.

William R. (Bill) Goings ('57) moved back to Ohio after graduation and taught high school until he retired in the mid-80s. He and his wife Sue moved back to Alabama to enjoy their retirement.

James E. Beasley ('58) was retired from active ministry in 1990 after serving for many

1960s

Jerry H. Daily ('66) was a basketball coach at Colbert County High School, the University of Alabama, and Northwest Junior College. He retired from coaching and began operating the Tennessee Valley Stockyard until he began working for Vulcan Materials. He later established his own company, Daily Ag Products.

Terry S. Maclin ('66) Sheffield, Ala., and graduated from UNA and Loyola University. Before retiring in 1995, he was a senior vice president at Crestar Bank. He was a veteran of the United States Army.

Robert W. "Bob" Walker ('66) was a Certified Public Accountant and the owner of Bob Walker and Associates. Later he was co-owner of Walker and Walker Financial Solutions, LLC. He was a licensed commercial real estate broker and a certified financial planner. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son, three grandchildren, brother, stepmother, and many other loved ones.

Elizabeth N. Garner ('67) retired after 27 years as a classroom teacher in Pizitz Middle School in Vestavia Hills, Ala. She gave 29 years of service to the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, serving many local, state, and international positions including State President of Alabama and Southeast U.S. Regional Director.

1970s

Steven P. Cotney ('71) was employed as a project manager for URS Engineering & Construction.

Robert Ganum Smith III ('71) was a retired teacher and coach from several schools in Northwest Alabama. He was an avid outdoorsman, was passionate about hunting and fishing, and had a love/hate relationship with the game of golf. He was a founding member of Hermitage Drive Hackers, Second Creek Fishing Fools, and Pickwick Pickers.

Muriel D. Glaister ('72) received her degree from Florence State in both Education and Counseling.

She later earned a nursing degree from University of Alabama Huntsville.

Larry Emmett "Snuffy" Smith ('72) was a Florence native and UNA Sports Hall of Fame member, still holding the title of most points scored in a basketball game. He educated students for 30 years as a teacher, coach and administrator. He coached basketball at Central and Lexington High School leading Central to numerous area and region championships.

Charles W. Casteel ('75) was retired in 1968 after serving 26 years in the U. S. Air Force serving as a pilot during World War II, Korea and the Vietnam era. He then after worked 17 years in Muscle Shoals at the Northwest Alabama Rehabilitation Center.

Ricky Wilkes ('76) was a native of Florence and lived in Madison County for 19 years.

1980s

Franklin D. Buttrum Jr. ('81) served a combat assignment during "Operation Desert

Shield/ Storm" in Southwest Asia as Military Police Plans and Operations Officer, Provost Marshal Office, U.S. Army Central Command in Saudi Arabia.

Richard M. Romine ('86) served in the U.S. Army during Vietnam. He worked at area hospitals in the health care field and retired from the UAB Hospital in Birmingham, Ala. in 2008. He is survived by his wife **Phyllis Emmons Romine ('72)**

1990s

Theresa Marie Beavers Martin ('91) was a member of several clubs while at UNA, receiving honors from Phi Sigma Iota, and Alpha Kappa Delta.

'00s

Patrick L. Keeton ('00 & '03) was a veteran serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was retired from TVA's NFDC and most recently retired from the Lauderdale County School System, where he was a high school science teacher at Waterloo.

Support UNA's ROAD SCHOLARS

When you buy a UNA license plate, \$47.50* of the \$50 fee goes to student scholarships.



*Tax deductible as per IRS regulations

Alumni Information Update

Name (include maiden name if applicable) _____

Graduation Year(s) and Major(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home telephone _____ E-mail address _____

Business telephone _____ Position _____

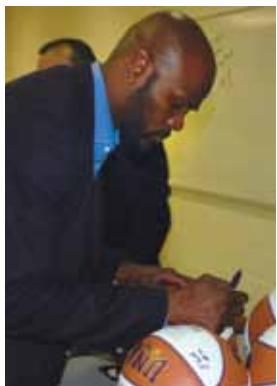
I want to get involved with UNA alumni in my area...

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Chapter Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Homecoming | <input type="checkbox"/> NAA Committee Assignment | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic Events | <input type="checkbox"/> NAA Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Recruit Students | <input type="checkbox"/> Reunions |

Have you won an award, changed jobs, earned a promotion, or completed another degree? Your UNA classmates would like to know more about it! Send us your news and we will publish it in a subsequent issue of the UNA Alumni Magazine. Please complete the form and send it to the Office of Alumni Relations, UNA Box 5047, Florence, AL 35632-0001 or e-mail to alumni1@una.edu.

UPDATE YOUR RECORDS

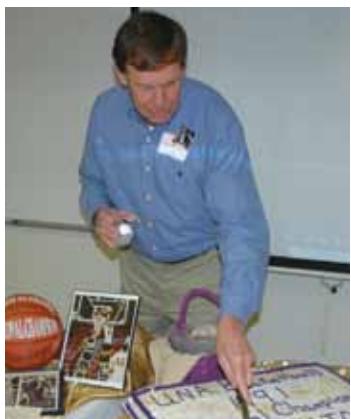
20th ANNIVERSARY
1991 NCAA DIVISION II
NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



Tony Dorsey



William Smith and Carl Wilmer



Gary Elliott



Ricky Johnson



Kevin Simmons, Darin Liles, Tony Dorsey and Darryl Hardy



Allen Williams and Kevin McDaniel



Alan Williams and Eric Lacy



THEY'RE A LOT LIKE YOU

They're attending your university, sitting where you once sat, dreaming the same dreams, charting the same paths. But not without the help of generous alumni like you. When a UNA student calls you this spring, talk with them, share your stories, listen to theirs. And say yes when they invite you to give to the UNA Scholarship Fund.

It's your gift that builds their future.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Melody Stewart, Director of Annual Giving

256-765-5080

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The next 18 years will go by fast.



That's why your gifts to the UNA Scholarship Fund are so important.
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knowing their UNA education will be affordable.
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Sparky and Rhonda Rucker Dolores Hydock Andy Irwin

Bil Lipp

University of North Alabama

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